

DATE

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TO :

FROM :

ACTION:

INFO :

IN 84966

OSA1-2014

TO

INFO

CITE

SECRET 301129Z CITE [ ] 5704

EDD  
PH  
RP 25X1  
KB  
DB 25X1  
AF  
NM  
DJ 25X1

OXCAR BLACKSHIELD LIFE SUPPORT OPERATIONS

REF: [ ] FLOWN 30 JUN 67

1. PILOT [ ] EXPERIENCED AN EPISODE OF BENDS 25X1

DURING REFERENCED MISSION. SYMPTOMS OCCURRED APPROXIMATELY 30 MINUTES AFTER THIRD REFUELING OPERATION AND APPROXIMATELY ONE HOUR FOLLOWING A BRIEF ONE MINUTE PERIOD DURING WHICH THE FACE PLATE WAS RAISED BY THE PILOT TO REMOVE AN EYE LASH FROM HIS LEFT EYE. AIRCRAFT ALTITUDE WAS 30M AND CABIN ALTITUDE WAS 26M AT THE TIME OF LIFTING FACE PLATE. AIRCRAFT ALTITUDE WAS 76M AND CABIN ALTITUDE WAS 26M AT TIME OF EXPERIENCING BENDS. AIRCRAFT NUMBER 129 HAS AN ISOBARIC PRESSURIZATION SYSTEM UP TO 26M. CABIN ALTITUDE IS MAINTAINED AT 26M AT ALL AIRCRAFT ALTITUDES ABOVE 26M. SYMPTOMS EXPERIENCED WERE DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: GRADUAL ONSET OF MILD TO MODERATE DEEP DISCOMFORT IN RIGHT KNEE JOINT WHICH WAS AGGRAVATED BY RUBBING OR MOVEMENT OF THE LEG. NO MIGRATION OF SYMPTOMS TO OTHER JOINTS OR MULTIPLE

SECRET

GROUP 1  
EXCLUDED FROM AUTO-  
MATIC DOWNGRADING  
AND DECLASSIFICATION

IN 84966

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25X1

JOINT INVOLVEMENT. TOTAL DURATION OF SYMPTOMS WAS ESTIMATED AS APPROXIMATELY 5 - 10 MINUTES AND WAS ASSOCIATED WITH A MILD PARASTHESIA OF SKIN OVER DORSUM OF BACK. PILOT DENIES TRANSITORY VISUAL DEFECTS, I.E. SCOTOMATA. SYMPTOMS RESPONDED RAPIDLY AND COMPLETELY TO MANUAL INCREASE OF ABSOLUTE SUIT PRESSURE FROM 5 TO 6.5 PSI. REMAINDER OF FLIGHT WAS FLOWN AS BRIEFED AND PILOT HAS REMAINED COMPLETELY ASYMPTOMATIC. PILOT HAD PREBREATHED FOR ONE HOUR PRIOR TO REACHING CRUISE ALTITUDE AND APPROXIMATELY 3 PLUS 30 HOURS FLIGHT TIME HAD ELAPSED DURING WHICH PILOT WAS BREATHING 100 PERCENT OXYGEN. NO OTHER SYMPTOMS OF TRAPPED OR EVOLVED GAS DYSBARISMS ELICITED. PILOT'S PAST HISTORY IS SIGNIFICANT INASMUCH HE RELATES ONLY A SINGLE SIMILAR EPISODE OF EVOLVED GAS DYSBARISM INVOLVING THE RIGHT ELBOW IN 1963 DURING ALTITUDE CHAMBER RUN TO TEST PRESSURE SUIT. (IN ADDITION THE PAST MEDICAL HISTORY INCLUDES AN OLD ASYMPTOMATIC ATHELETIC INJURY TO THE RIGHT KNEE IN 1949.)

2. PHYSICAL EXAMINATION DID NOT REVEAL ANY EVIDENCE OF SERIOUS COMPLICATIONS OR SEQUELAE OF BENDS. KNEE JOINT IS NOT TENDER, SKIN IS CLEAR, BLOOD PRESSURE AND PULSE RATE IS STABLE, VISUAL FIELDS ARE NORMAL, NEUROLOGICAL EXAMINATION IS NORMAL AND OPHTHALMOSCOPIC EXAMINATION IS UNREMARKABLE.

3. PILOT'S PHYSICAL STATUS WILL BE CLOSELY OBSERVED FOR SIGNS OR SYMPTOMS OF DELAYED CIRCULATORY REACTIONS. A RECOMPRESSION CHAMBER IS READILY AVAILABLE AT USN PORT NAHA IN RARE EVENT FURTHER TREATMENT IS REQUIRED. PILOT WILL BE PLACED IN DNIF STATUS FOR A MINIMUM OF 48 HOURS. PROGNOSIS IS EXCELLENT.

S E C R E T TOR: 301224Z JUN 67

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